

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is a novel cytokine protein called IL-12
or Cytotoxic Lymphocyte Maturation Factor (CLMF) which is
5 produced and synthesized by human NC-37 B lymphoblastoid cells
(American Type Culture Collection, Rockville, MD). CLMF
synergistically induces with low concentrations of IL-2 the cytolytic
activity of Lymphokine Activated Killer (LAK) cells, and CLMF is
capable of stimulating T-cell growth.

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Also claimed are the cloned gene for CLMF, its recombination in
a suitable vector, the transformed cells containing said vector, the
recombinant protein produced by the transformed cells and
antibodies to CLMF.

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